



Report from the 1st Europe Eurasia Meeting

Introduction

Following on from the informal Europe Eurasia Meeting held during the last World Scout Conference in Jeju, Korea, the 1st Europe Eurasia Meeting was organised and took place in Kiev, Ukraine, over the weekend of 24-26 April 2009.

Programme

The programme started formally on the Saturday morning and ran through until early on the Sunday afternoon. The theme for the meeting was 'Good Neighbours' and the aim was to provide a forum for NSOs from both the European Scout Region and Eurasia Scout Region to discuss issues of common interest, develop new partnerships, strengthen existing partnerships and clarify how both Regions can be better 'neighbours' towards each other.

Following inputs on the general situation in Europe and Eurasia, NSOs and NSAs provided highly illustrated and detailed presentations of their own situations. Although it was long, feedback from participants identified this session as being particular helpful. Mario Diaz, Vice-Chairman of the World Scout Committee and Luc Panissod, Secretary General, provided an update from the world level and also offered helpful reflections on the presentations that had just been given.

The meeting concluded with the preparation and approval of the Europe Eurasia Co-operation Agreement (see below).

Actions

Towards the end of the meeting, participants were made aware of a number of opportunities that are available to all of them to help turn their ideas for proposed actions into reality. Following that, NSOs/NSAs as well as both Regional Committees were asked to highlight what they would do as a result of the meeting. Detailed below is a list of the actions proposed by European NSOs/NSAs.

Romania

• Closer collaboration with Moldova Scouts

- Sharing of materials/resources etc. in Romanian and English on domains of interest for Moldova Scouts (Training, Youth Programme and Scouting's Profile)
- Set up a team with representatives from Moldova and Romania (and possibly Ukraine) to plan and submit project proposals (Youth in Action, Black Sea Cross Border Co-operation Programme, Cross Border Co-operation Programme between Romania, Moldova and Ukraine)
- Continuous flow of information and invitations to events organised by ONCR (trainings, camps etc)
- Promote local to local Scout Group co-operation

• Start collaboration with Ukrainian Scouts

- Set up contacts with their Federation
- Identify possible areas of co-operation and support
- Invitations to events organised by ONCR

• Share information and experiences with Armenia Scouts

- Share each organisation's projects on leader training and retention programmes
- Continuous communication during the implementation of the these two parallel projects

Sweden

- Encourage Scout Groups to participate in camps and events outside Sweden and preferably in Eurasian NSOs
- Investigate the possibility of creating one or two training teams to run leader training internationally
- Strengthen the work to develop the course 'values based leadership' for an international context
- Create a stronger support organisation to assist international projects

- Inform Scouts and Leaders about the many opportunities for partnerships that exist or can be created

Austria

- Start a series of articles for our Scouts magazine with information on Eurasia
 - Countries (facts and figures)
 - NSOs (Members, history, national events etc)
 - Possible partnerships
 - Region and its history
- To make the Region known
- To encourage Austrian Units to build links

United Kingdom

- Promote Group to Group links between the United Kingdom and NSOs in Eurasia
- Inform people that Eurasia is accessible
- Extend and co-ordinate invitations to international events in the United Kingdom
- Recruit Eurasia Advisor to act as a point of contact between The Scout Association and Eurasia

Finland

- Continue to develop co-operation with Russia
- Continue to discuss each other's needs and wishes, in order to identify possible next steps for participation in each other's camps

Poland

- Polish trainers will take part in a training camp in Azerbaijan from 4 to 11 July 2009
- Consider a project with Moldova, combining Moldavian Scouts with Polish Diaspora
- Finalisation of the Strategic Agreement between Ukraine (Plast) and Poland:
 - Governance training for Plast before their General Assembly
 - Management training for District and Region Commissioners
 - Establishment of the Museum of Scouting in Lvov, the city where Polish and Ukrainian Scouting was born
 - Preparation of a training project for Rovers, Rangers and Leaders during Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine
- Poland and Georgia
 - Build on links created during Georgian-Russian conflict, possibly leading to exchanges with Georgian Scouts

Lithuania

- Send information about the BalticJam 2010 to NSOs in the Eurasia Scout Region
- Discuss ways we can help them to participate in the Jamboree
- Plan a Europe-Eurasia contact making event for the local level

European Scout Committee

- Share outcomes from the 1st Europe Eurasia Meeting with all NSOs/NSAs in Europe
- Share outcomes from the 1st Europe Eurasia Meeting with the Europe Committee WAGGGS
- When the new Regional Director for Eurasia is appointed, encourage the Regional Director to spend time in the Regional Offices in Geneva and Brussels
- Invite representatives from the Eurasia Scout Committee to the November 2009 meeting of the European Scout Committee
- Invite representatives from the Eurasia Scout Committee to attend the Kandersteg 2010 volunteers meeting
- Provide direct training to Eurasia NSOs on funding opportunities
- Promote relevant funding opportunities to the Eurasia Regional Office
- Invite a representative from Eurasia to join the European Scout Region's 'European Policies Support Group'.

Participants List

Participants from Europe	
Thomas Ertlthaler	Austria
Anders Ljørring	Denmark
Tiia Veneranta	Finland
Mikko Pori	Finland
Benjamin Cabanes	France
Thomas Rakovas	Lithuania
Are Shaw Waage	Norway
Rafal Bednarczyk	Poland
Iuliana Rada	Romania
Thomas Bruno	Sweden
Jon Bell	United Kingdom
Paolo Fiora	European Scout Committee
Craig Turpie	European Scout Committee
David McKee	Regional Director

Participants from Eurasia	
Oshin Piroumyan	Armenia
Namik Jafarov	Azerbaijan
Ibrahim Ismailov	Azerbaijan
Tamara Shukakidze	Georgia
Irakli Todua	Georgia
Victor Deymund	Kazakhstan
Vladimir Vlas	Moldova
Yuri Emilian	Moldova
Igor Ivanov	Russia
Anatoli Ermilin	Russia
Rustem Karimov	Tajikistan
Bogdan Gavrilishin	Ukraine
Valeriy Tanzyura	Ukraine
Bagrat Yesayan	Eurasian Scout Committee

Guests	
Inna Golubets	Belarus
Mario Diaz	World Scout Committee
Luc Panissod	Secretary General

Europe – Eurasia Co-operation Agreement

Representatives of National Scout Associations from the European Scout Region and the Eurasia Scout Region gathered for the 1st Europe-Eurasia Meeting in Kiev, Ukraine, from 24 to 26 April 2009 to discuss regional co-operation.

The 1st Europe-Eurasia Meeting agreed the following:

- That National Scout Associations interested in Europe-Eurasia Co-operation:
 - Seek to develop existing partnerships
 - Build new bi-lateral and multi-lateral partnerships
 - Share information and best practices
 - Encourage the development of relationships at unit level, leading to increased youth exchanges and participation in events for young people
- That both Regional Committees and Regional Offices would:
 - Regularly exchange information and resources
 - Advise and encourage participation in seminars, events and other learning opportunities organised by both Regions
 - Promote and encourage participation in nationally organised events
 - Work together on joint applications for funding through the European institutions
 - Seek to co-ordinate solidarity and technical support in order to maximise impact
- That this Europe-Eurasia Co-operation Agreement be reviewed on a bi-annual basis.

Kiev, Ukraine
Sunday, 26 April 2009